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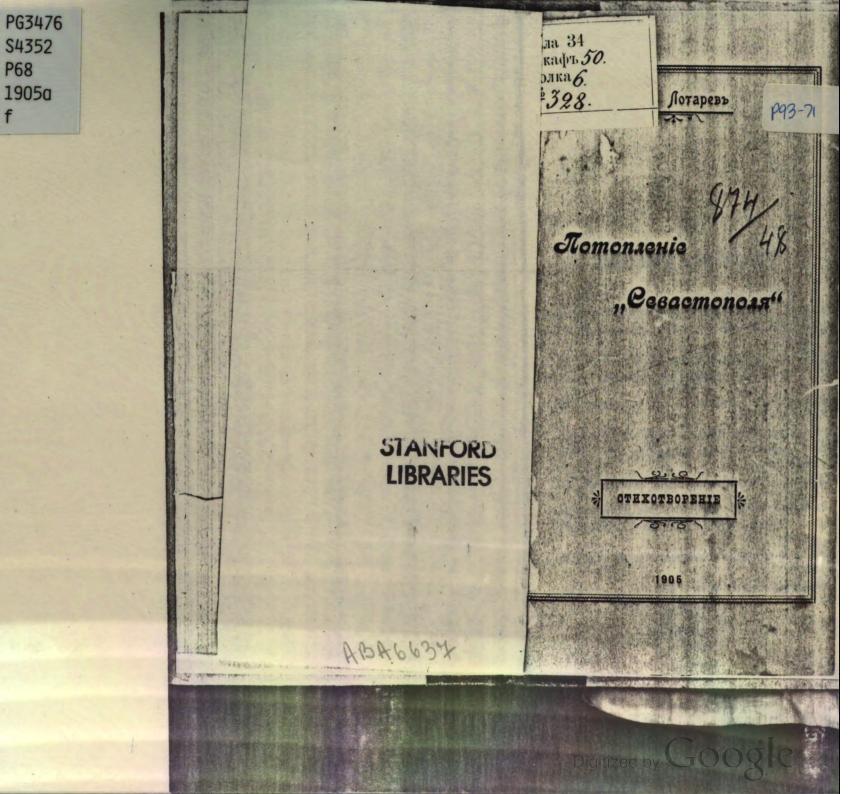
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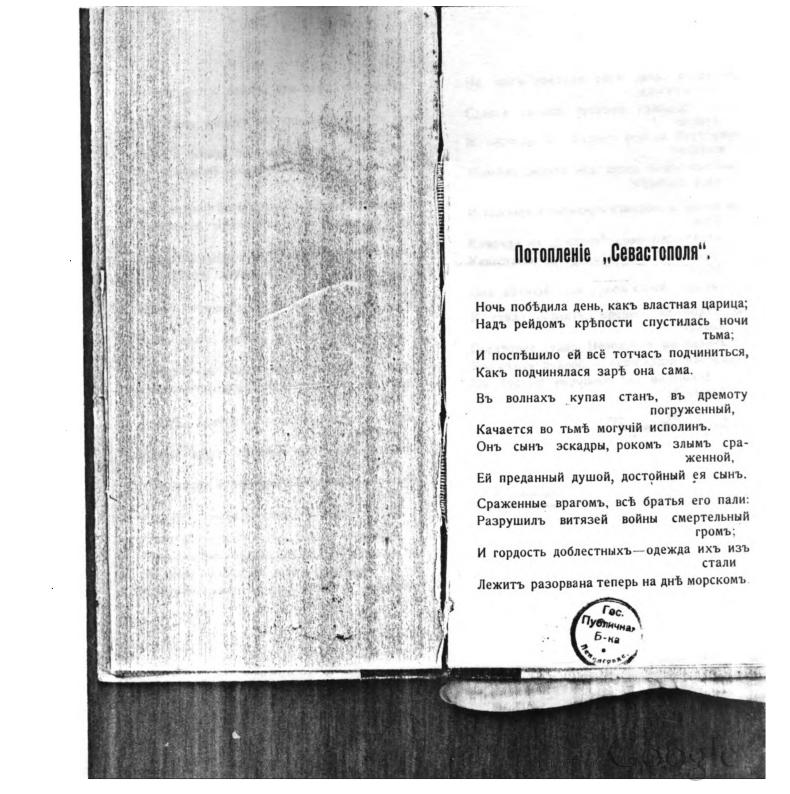
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И чувствуетъ боецъ, что самъ погибнетъ скоро,

Что самъ уйдетъ на дно за братьями во слъдъ.

Ему не скрыть себя отъ вражескаго взора, Не избъжать ему грядущихъ страшныхъ бъдъ.

Онъ жизнь рѣшилъ отдать цѣною дорогою. Опасности презрѣвъ, онъ бодро ждетъ враговъ.

Но вотъ уже сигналъ зоветъ команду къ бою, Къ отпору дружному всъхъ вражескихъ судовъ.

Какъ страшенъ бой морской во тьмъ холодной ночи!

Какъ врагъ упрямъ и смълъ! какъ доблестенъ отпоръ!

Прожекторы, блестя, какъ дьявольскія очи, Пронзаютъ ночи тьму; снарядовъ смертный хоръ

Реветъ, гремитъ, свиститъ, гудитъ, какъ въ бурю ели,

Другъ другу смерть за смерть шлютъ пылкіе враги.

Стремятся въ битвъ всъ къ одной и тойже цъли:

Разбить, сломать врага на мелкіе куски.

Такъ нѣсколько ночей, атаки отражая, Безъсна, безъотдыха герой нашъ проводилъ. И, раны тяжкія ни рѣдко получая, Враговъ своихъ корабль ни мало потопилъ.

Но вотъ насталъ тотъ день, когда въ изнеможеньи, Сдался своимъ врагамъ голодный нашъ оплотъ;

И тотчасъ же Виренъ велълъ безъ промедленія

Корабль скрыть отъ врага подъ кровомъ бурныхъ водъ.

Исполнилъ командиръ приказъ и, выйдя въ море,

Команду на "Силачъ" свою пересадилъ, Кингстоны отворилъ, и боль скользнула въ взоръ:

Онъ дътище свое рукой своей топилъ.

И стало осъдать, кренясь на бортъ на правый,

Послъднее судно. Невольный же палачъ – Его отецъ родной, — окончивши расправу, Съ тоскою перешелъ на маленькій "Силачъ".

Uropo Homapelio.

С.-Петербургь. 27-го марта 1905 г. •

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